



REPREPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF:

**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**

NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS

P.O. BOX 60267

NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70160-0267

Planning, Programs and  
Project Management Division  
Protection and Restoration Office

September 14, 2007

Dear Property Owner:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) has completed surveys in the vicinity of your property and we have identified obstructions on, or immediately adjacent to, the levee along the 17<sup>th</sup> Street Canal. At each property parcel along the levee, the surveys delineated the existing right-of-way limits with a survey stake painted orange and marked "ROW." The subject ROW stake also corresponds to your back property line. The surveys also identified the location of the levee toe with a survey stake painted white and marked "TOE." The surveys were performed to complete necessary analyses relative to tree and fence removal activities proposed along the 17<sup>th</sup> Street Canal levee.

Attached to this letter is an Obstruction/Item Inventory that summarizes the survey results relative to your property. The map of your property identifies the location of the ROW/property line, the levee toe, and the "levee toe plus 6 feet" line. The "levee toe plus 6 feet" line identifies the minimum zone adjacent to levees that must be kept free of obstructions, per Louisiana law (Louisiana Revised Statutes 38:225) and Corps guidance. Please be aware that no stake was placed in the field to identify the toe plus 6 feet line. Rather, it is a virtual line in our project Geographic Information System (GIS) and shown on the attached sheet to illustrate its position relative to your property line.

**In the case of your property, our surveys indicate that the "levee toe plus 6 feet" line falls within your property. However, our surveys also indicate that there are no obstructions currently existing on your property identified within the obstruction-free zone. Therefore, our impending tree and fence removal will have no direct impact on your property. However, please be aware that the subject "levee toe plus 6 feet" area must remain free of future obstructions (including fences, trees and other structures) in order to protect the integrity of the levee.**

Please be advised that we will soon request right-of-entry from the non-federal sponsor, the Orleans Levee District, to accomplish the removal of trees and fences within the identified obstruction zones. Prior to removal of trees and fences, surveyors will identify the location of the "toe plus 6 feet" line on your property with blue survey stakes and blue survey paint. Structures other than trees and fences that are identified as obstructions (such as sheds, retaining walls, etc.) will not be removed at this time. We will refer each of these structures to the local sponsor, the Orleans Levee District, for resolution through their normal permitting processes.

If you have any questions concerning this letter, please feel free to contact Mr. Steve Finnegan of my office at 504-862-2553 or Mr. Scott Nobles of our Real Estate Division at 504-862-1157. Visit our web page at [www.mvn.usace.army.mil](http://www.mvn.usace.army.mil) (click on Removing Trees to Protect Levees under Hurricane Recovery Links).

Sincerely,

/S/

Michael E. Stout, AICP  
Project Manager for Tree Removal

Copy furnished:

Mr. Stevan Spencer, Orleans Levee District

Mrs. Shelley Midura, New Orleans City Councilperson, District A